

MIDSTATE AMATEUR
RADIO CLUB

October 1987

The Spark Gap

DE KA9DDH-- This issue is going to be a short one. Between working with the Red Cross at the airport disaster on Tuesday and my XYL entering the hospital on Thursday, I'm sandwiching this in on Wednesday. (HMMM- Sandwich-- that makes me hungry!)

Amateur Radio showed its worth yesterday after the jet crash at the airport. Art Hopkins WA9VQD called me about noon to go out to the welfare command center at the Adam's Mark Hotel. I sort of broke the speed limit getting there, and then spent almost eight hours on the air, mostly helping guests of the Ramada get resettled and handing out "Comfort Kits" to them. The rest of the time I spent handling inquiries from relatives and helping update the Red Cross list. It was an experience I won't soon forget!

My XYL Paulette is going into University Heights Hospital tomorrow (Thursday) for exploratory surgery; we won't know how extensive it will be until after it's done. We should be able to pass on more info by Sunday night net, if I'm not at the hospital with her then.

DE N9DON-- Thanks to all for my re-election. It's an honor to be your president for a second term. I promise not to raise taxes and to serve homemade biscuits and gravy for Field Day '88.

Thanks to everyone who participated in the Bargersville Flea Market project: WA9RDF, KA9YEA, KA9ZMU, W9PSD, N9DLN, N9DON and N9DON. We raised over \$180 for the new repeater project!

Finally, be sure to check in on Sunday night net for details on the Pumpkin Patrol; we'll be assisting the Johnson County sheriff again Friday and Saturday of Halloween weekend.

WHO IS KA9ZMU? None other than Bill Brinkmann, who passed his Novice test in early September and his Tech in late September. Look for him on net very soon.

SPEAKING OF UPGRADES-- Mac KA9YEA is now an Extra and Fred KA9VRB is an Advanced, both as of 9-26. Mac, will you let the ink dry on this ticket? (Mac passed his Novice in February and now has his PhD in ham radio! That's progress!)

WANT TO UPGRADE, TOO?-- Then join MSARC's Advanced class. Jack NT9J (who was also at the Airport for a long time Tuesday) is helping anyone interested with the Advanced theory on Thursday nights at Joe Vergara's home, 1785 S. Franklin Rd. in Greenwood. (better call Joe at 862-3394 for directions). Class starts around 7:15 PM. There's still time to get in so you can be ready for the VE session on November 27. By all means, go for

the Advanced; next to the General, it's the best bargain in ham radio as far as new frequencies go, and I can testify that there's lots of good DX in the Advanced bands.

OUR SYMPATHY-- to Dick Farmer WB9UWL on the recent death of his mother.

NOVEMBER MEETING-- will be on Saturday, 11-21, usual time and place. The program will be a tour of the new Johnson County Jail and Communications Center. Better make this meeting, since it's sure to be your only chance (we hope!) to see the new jail.

THAT'S IT for October. Hope the bands keep improving. Don't forget the VE session at Custer Baker Middle School on November 27; upgrading is fun!

73

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